

21 April, 2026

Higashiyama Kai Gallery Collection 2026 – Part I

14 May (Thu) – 27 July (Mon), 2026

Nagano Prefectural Art Museum, Higashiyama Kai Gallery

— Featuring *Evening Star*, the artist's final work,
in connection with the anniversary of his passing on 6 May —



Higashiyama Kai Gallery exterior

Opened in 1990, the Higashiyama Kai Gallery houses more than 980 works, including those donated by the artist himself as well as later acquisitions.

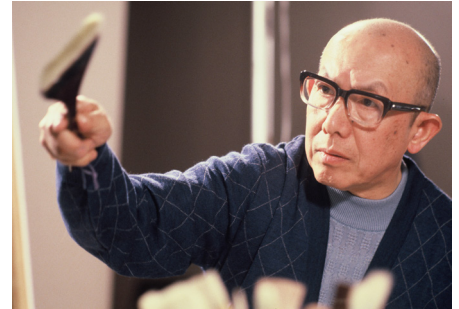
The 2026 Higashiyama Kai Gallery Collection exhibitions will present approximately 30 major works over four periods, including *Vibrant Greens*, *Window*, and *Marsh in Stillness*. Throughout the year, visitors can experience the full scope of Higashiyama's art: from *Four Seasons in Kyoto* and *Spring and Autumn in Yamato* series depicting Japan's historic cities, to landscapes of European nature and townscapes, scenes featuring white horses, and preparatory studies for the wall paintings of the Toshodaiji Meido. These works deeply contemplate nature and express a serene, tranquil world.

Part I introduces early works such as *Self-Portrait*, painted when Higashiyama was fifteen, along with *Peonies* and *Mountains in Autumn Colors* from his student years at Tokyo School of Fine Arts. Also featured are works from the series *Landscapes with a White Horse*, including *Vibrant Green*. In addition, as 6 May marks the anniversary of the artist's death, his final work, *Evening Star*, will be presented.

▶ Artist Profile

Higashiyama Kaii

Born in 1908 in Yokohama, Higashiyama moved to Kobe at the age of three. He graduated from the Japanese Painting Department of Tokyo School of Fine Arts. In 1933, he travelled to Germany to study. He continued to exhibit at the Nitten (Japan Fine Arts Exhibition), receiving the Special Prize in 1947. In 1956, he was awarded the Japan Art Academy Prize, and in 1965 he became a member of the Japan Art Academy. He received the Order of Culture in 1969. His major works include murals for the Imperial Palace and the sliding door paintings for the Mieido Hall of Toshodaiji Temple.



Higashiyama Kaii (photo: Teruo Terashima)

In 1995, the Higashiyama Kaii Kokoro no Tabiji Museum opened in Nakatsugawa, Gifu Prefecture. He passed away on 6 May 1999 at the age of 90, and was posthumously awarded the Senior Third Rank and the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Sacred Treasure. He is buried at the Hanaoka Taira Cemetery of Zenkoji Daihongan in Nagano City. In 2005, the Setouchi Higashiyama Kaii Museum of Art (Kagawa) and the Ichikawa City Higashiyama Kaii Memorial Museum opened.

▶ Selected Works (planned)

Peonies (1927)

Mountains in Autumn Colors (1932)

Vibrant Greens (1982)

Evening Star (1999)



Higashiyama Kaii, *Vibrant Greens*, 1982

Exhibition Overview

Exhibition Title : Higashiyama Kaii Gallery Collection 2026 – Part I

Dates : 14 May (Thu) – 27 July (Mon), 2026

Venue : Nagano Prefectural Art Museum, Higashiyama Kaii Gallery

Opening Hours : Hours: 9:00 – 17:00 (last admission 16:30)

Admission (combined ticket for Main Building & Higashiyama Kaii Gallery)

General : 700 yen

University students & visitors aged 75 and over : 500 yen

High school students & visitors under 18 : Free

- Persons with a physical disability certificate, intellectual disability certificate, or mental disability health and welfare certificate, and one accompanying person are admitted free of charge.
- Free for students attending universities and other institutions in Nagano Prefecture (see museum website for details)

Closed : Wednesdays

Organizers : Nagano Prefecture; Nagano Prefectural Art Museum

Please note that details such as exhibition dates may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. For the latest information, please visit the museum website.

Higashiyama Kai Gallery Collection 2026 – Annual Schedule

- Part I** ▶ 14 May (Thu) – 27 July (Mon), 2026
- Part II** ▶ 31 July (Fri) – 27 October (Tue), 2026
- Part III** ▶ 29 October (Thu), 2026 – 26 January (Tue), 2027
- Part IV** ▶ 11 February (Thu, national holiday) – 20 April (Tue), 2027

Events such as gallery talks and workshops are conducted in Japanese only.

Therefore, event information is provided only on the Japanese press release and our web site.

■ Contact

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